SPEECH

OF THE HONORABLE

DENZELL HOLLIS,
(Second Son to the Right Honorable John Earle of Clare deceased)
and Brother to the now Earle
of Clare.

At the delivery of the Protestation to the Lords of the upper Honse of Parliament, 4. May 1641.

Wherein is set forth the reasons that moved the House of Commons to make the said Protestation.

Together with a short Narration of the severall grievances of the Kingdome.

LONDON,

Printed by B. A. and T. F. for IOHN
HAMMOND, 1641.

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LONDON,

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SPECH

AT A CONFERENCE of both Houses in the

Painted Chamber, May, 4.

MY LORDS:



He Knights, Citizens, and Burgeffes of the House of Commons, having taken into consideration, the present estate and condition of this Kingdome, they find it surroun-

ded with variety of pernitious, and destructive Designes, practises, and plots, against the well A 2 being being of it, nay the very being of it, and some of those designes harched within our owne bowels, and Viper like working our destruction.

They finde Jesuites, and Priests conspiring with ill Ministers of State to destroy our Religion. They find ill Ministers conjoyn'd together to subvert our Lawes and Liberties.

They finde obstructions of Justice, which is the life-blood of every State, and having a free passage from the Soveraigne power, where it is primarily seated, as the life-blood in the heart, and thence derived through the severall Judicatories, as through so many veynes (into all the parts of this great collective body) doth give warmth and motion to every part and member which is nourished and enlivened by it, but being once precluded, stopped and teared up, as the particular must of necessity faint and languish; so must the whole frame of government be dissolved.

And consequently Soveraignty it selfe (which as the heart in the body is Primum vivens & ultimum moriens must dye and perith in the generall dissolution, and all things return, as in the beginning, in Antiquum Chaos.

My Lords, they find the property of the Subject invaded, and violated, his estate rent from him by illegall taxations, Monopolies and Projects, almost upon every thing, that is for the use of man,

and this to enrich the Vermine and Caterpillers of the land, and to impoverish the good Subjects, to take the meat from the children, and to give it to dogs. My Lords, if the Commons find these things, they conceive they must be ill Counsels have brought us into this condition.

These Counsels have put all into a combufiion, have discouraged the hearts of all true English men, and have brought two armies into our Bowels, which, as the vulture upon Prometheus, eats through our sides, and gnawes our very hearts.

Hinc dolor! sed unde Medicina?

Heretofore Parliaments were the Catholicon, the balme of Gilead, which healed our wounds, restored our Spirits, made up the breaches of our land:

But of late yeares they have bin like the Fig tree in the Gospell without efficacy, without fruit onely destructive to the particular Members, who discharged their duties and consciences, no way beneficiall to the Commonwealth, Nobis exitiale nec Reipubl. profuturum, as he said on Tacitus, being taken away still as Eliss was with a whirle-wind, never comming to any Maturitie, or to their natural end, whereas they should be like the blessed old man who dyeth, plenus dierum in a sullage,

after he had fought a good fight, & overcome all his Enemies, Or as the shocke of wheat which commeth in due season to fill our Granaries with corne, uphold our lives with the staffe of bread. For Parliaments are our Panis quotidianus, our true bread, all other wayes are but Quelques choses, which yeeld no true nourishment, nor breed good bloud.

This very Parliament which hath fate fo long, hath but beat the ayre, and striven against the streame, I may truely say, the mind and tide

bath still bin against us.

The same ill Counsels which first raised the storme, and almost ship wrack't the Commonwealth they still continue, they blow strong like the East wind, that brought the Locusts over the land. These counsels crosse our Designes, cast difficulties in our way, hinder our proceedings, and make all that we doe to bee fruitlesse & inessectuall. They make us not to be Masters of our businesse, & so not Masters of mony, which hath bin the great busines of this Parliament, that we might pay the armies according to our promises and engagement.

For, my Lords, our not effecting of the good things, which we had undertaken for the good of the Common weale hath wounded our repu-

tation, and taken off, from our credit.

Is it not time then (my Lords) that wee should unite and concentrate our selves, in regard of the Antiperistasis of hurtfull and malicious intentions and practises against us.

My Lords. It is most agreeable to nature, and I am sure most agreeable to reason, in respect of the present conjuncture of our affaires: for one maine engine, by which our enemies worke our mischiese is by insusing an opinion and beliese into the World, that we are not united among our selves, but like Sampsons Foxes, we draw severall wayes, and tend to severall Ends.

To defeat then the Counfell of these Achitophels which would involve us, our Religion, our being, our lawes, our liberties, all that can be neare and deare unto an honest Soule in one univerfall and generall Desolation, To Defeate I say, the Counfell of fuch Achitophells, the Knights, Citizens, and Burgelfes of the house of Commons, knowing themfelves to be specially entruded with the prefervation of the whole, and in their confciences perswaded that & dangers are so imminent, that they will admir of no delay, have thought fit to declare their united affections by entring into an affociation among ft themselves, and by making a solemne Protestation and vowe unto their God, that they will unanimously endeavour to oppose and prevent the Counfels, and the Counfellours, which have brought upon us all these miseries, and the seares of greater. To To prevent the ends, and bring the Authors of them to condigne punishment, and thereby discharge themselves both before God and Man.

The Protestation your Lordsbips shall have readunto you; together with the grounds and reasons which have induced the House of Commons to make it, which are presixed before it by may of Preamble.

Then the Protestation was read by Ma-

And thereupon concluded his Message to this effect, That the house of Commons had commanded him to prefent unto their Lordships this Protestation, That every Member in that house had made it, no one refusing it, and that they sent it to your Lordships, with assurance of your Lordships concurrence in the same Zeale and affection for the publique safety: That it is their desire your Lordships should likewise make the same Protestation, which we humbly leave to your Lordships wisedomes, and there made an end of the conference.

FINIS.

lours, which have brought upon us all these maleries, and the searcs of greater-